(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the gestation period for the bonds is also likely to be reduced and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANAND RAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) to (c) Government has discontinued the Relief Bonds Scheme with effect from the close of business on 28th February, 2003.

Irregularities by SEBI

4066. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government's attention have been drawn to the irregularities and corrupt practices in the functioning of SEBI ; and

(b) whether there is a proposal to give the investigation to CBI for further probe into the irregularities and corruptions in SEBI ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND RAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Implementation of Official Languages Act of 1963 in the Public Sector Banks

4067. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Official Languages Act, 1963 makes it mandatory for all the public sector banks to ensure that the computerisation is done in Bi-lingual Mode;

(b) if so, the details regarding public sector banks in India where computerisation had been done in Bi-lingual Mode, State-wise, District-wise and Mandal-wise; and

(c) if not, the reasons for not introducing Bi-lingual Mode in the computerisation of all the public sector banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND RAO VITHOBA ADSUL) : (a) and (b) Yes sir. Under Section 3(3) of Official Languages Act, 1963 resolutions, general orders, rules, notifications, agreements, administrative and other reports or press communiques etc. should invariably be issued bilingually. Official Language Department of Ministry of Home Affairs issues directions from time to time for implementation of Official Language policy in Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings which cover computerisation in bilingual mode also. All Public Sector Banks ensure that the computerisation is done in bilingual mode and are doing word processing in Hindi and English to a great extent. Reserve Bank of India has asked the banks to get bilingual software prepared for core banking solution also. Details of use of Hindi on computers in Public Sector Banks are given in the Annexure [See Appendix 194, Annexure No. 16]. Since State-wise, District-wise and Mandal-wise data are not collected from banks, these have been consolidated region-wise i.e. Region A, B and C as per the instructions.

(c) Does not arise.

Seizure of goods by Customs Department

4068. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government maintains any record of the goods seized by the Customs Department at their warehouses in four major metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the details of the seizure and the record; and

(c) the amount of the seizure at Mumbai International Airport and how it is being disposed of?